

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 24-29 to change "The additive" to read --The chewing gum ingredient--

Claim 30

The chewing gum ingredient of claim 23 wherein said granulated chewing gum ingredient has a particle size greater than 40 mesh.

Claim 31

The chewing gum ingredient of claim 30 wherein said granulated chewing gum ingredient has a particle size range of 30 mesh to 40 mesh.

Claim 32

A process for the preparation of a chewing gum ingredient which is a granulated additive for providing crunch to a chewing gum, wherein said crunch providing ingredient consists essentially of isomalt, said process consisting essentially of:

- a) heating isomalt at a temperature of 130°C or higher;
- b) cooling to form a solid;
- c) granulating said solid to a particle size greater than 50 mesh.